

Attorney Docket No. 24950a

3635

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on this 11 day of August, 2003

s/ Maria C. Gasaway
Maria C. Gasaway

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kliegle et al.

Serial No.: 10/067,161

Filed: February 4, 2002

For: SUSPENDED CEILING PANEL EDGE
AND RIB TECHNOLOGY

Group Art Unit: 3635

Examiner: C. Green

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

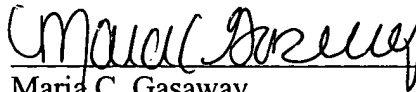
In response to the Office Action dated July 11, 2003, the Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement requiring Applicants to elect one invention. Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 1-12 (Group I) with traverse.

However, while Applicants agree with the Examiner that the subject matter of Groups I-IV are independent and patentably distinct, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-36 is sufficiently related and that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be

made without serious burden.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of the case, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Maria C. Gasaway", is written over a horizontal line.

Maria C. Gasaway

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Date: August 11, 2003